

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Arthur "Archie" Larose, Chairman
Ms. Robbie Howe, Acting Secretary/Treasurer

EI-18638

District I Representative
Ms. Robbie Howe

District II Representative
Steve White

District III Representative
Eugene "Ribs" Whitebird

June 1, 2011

Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: **Proposed BNSF Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption**
Stearns County, Minnesota
LL-THPO Number: 11-086-NCRI

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JUN 01 2011
MANAGEMENT
SIS

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1992 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (38CFR800).

I have reviewed the documentation; after careful consideration of our records, I have determined that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe does not have any known recorded sites of religious or cultural importance in these areas.

Should any human remains or suspected human remains be encountered, all work shall cease and the following personnel should be notified immediately in this order: County Sheriff's Office and Office of the State Archaeologist. If any human remains or culturally affiliated objects are inadvertently discovered this will prompt the process to which the Band will become informed.

Please note: The above determination does not "exempt" future projects from Section 106 review. In the event of any other tribe notifying us of concerns for a specific project, we may re-enter into the consultation process.

You may contact me at (218) 335-2940 if you have questions regarding our review of these projects. Please refer to the LL-THPO Number as stated above in all correspondence with this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina M. Lemon
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Leech Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office * Established in 1996

An office within the Division of Resource Management
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